

**Program D: Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) Tuition****OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Unless otherwise indicated, all objectives are to be accomplished during or by the end of FY 2002-2003. Performance indicators are made up of two parts: name and value. The indicator name describes what is being measured. The indicator value is the numeric value or level achieved within a given measurement period. For budgeting purposes, performance indicators are shown for the prior fiscal year, the current fiscal year, and alternative funding scenarios (continuation budget level and Executive Budget recommendation level) for the ensuing fiscal year of the budget document.

This program provides for a state appropriation to fund the TOPS scholarships. The objectives and performance indicators that appear below are associated with program funding in both the Base Executive Budget and the Governor's Supplementary Recommendations for FY 2002-2003. A supplementary recommendation of \$18 million, all of which is State General Fund, is included in the Total Recommendation for this program. This supplementary recommendation represents 20.1% of the General Fund recommendation (\$89,631,882) and 19.2% of the total budget recommendation (\$93,945,360) for the TOPS Tuition Program. It represents partial funding for the TOPS program contingent upon the renewal of the suspension of the \$25 per child Education Income Tax Credit. The objectives below are associated with both the Base Executive Budget and the Governor's Supplementary Recommendation. Specific information on program funding is presented in the financial section.

DEPARTMENT ID: 19B - Special Schools and Commissions

AGENCY ID: 19-661 Office of Student Financial Assistance

PROGRAM ID: Program D: TOPS Tuition

## 1. (KEY) To identify and award all qualified candidates eligible to participate in the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) program.

Strategic Link: *This objective ties to OSFA Strategic Plan Goal 1 in the Scholarship and Grant Program.*

Louisiana: Vision 2020 Link: This objective ties to Objective 1.3 and Objective 1.5.

Children's Cabinet Link: Not Applicable

Other Link(s): This objective is associated with the TOPS Fund (tobacco settlement funds) which provides one source of funding for the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS). This objective ties to Action Plan 2001 Recommendation A-17.

Explanatory note: The funding category related to this objective is the Base Executive Budget and the Governor's Supplementary Recommendation.

L E V E L	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES					
		YEAREND PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2000-2001	ACTUAL YEAREND PERFORMANCE FY 2000-2001	ACT 12 PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2001-2002	EXISTING PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2001-2002	AT CONTINUATION BUDGET LEVEL FY 2002-2003	AT RECOMMENDED BUDGET LEVEL FY 2002-2003
K	Total amount awarded - TOPS program	\$90,970,729	\$89,921,778	\$102,161,368 <sup>1</sup>	\$102,161,368 <sup>1</sup>	\$99,469,219 <sup>2</sup>	\$93,945,360 <sup>2</sup>
K	Total number of recipients - TOPS program	35,540	35,585	41,326 <sup>3</sup>	41,326 <sup>3</sup>	38,999 <sup>2</sup>	37,455 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Although the FY 2001-2002 performance standard is \$102,161,368, the agency indicated in its FY 2001-2002 Second Quarter Performance Progress Report that it anticipates the yearend figure will be \$102,003,263.<sup>2</sup> The drop in total amount awarded and total number of recipients in FY 2002-2003 can be attributed to the maturation of the program, with first approved students running out of eligibility.<sup>3</sup> Although the FY 2001-2002 performance standard is 41,326, the agency indicated in its FY 2001-2002 Second Quarter Performance Progress Report that it anticipates the yearend figure will be 42,388.

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## 2. (KEY) To process and award 95% of all graduates of the current academic year qualifying for TOPS scholarships within 60 days from the deadline.

Strategic Link: This objective ties to OSFA Strategic Goal 1.2 in the Scholarship and Grant Program.

Louisiana: Vision 2020 Link: This objective ties to Vision 2020 Objective 1.3 and Objective 1.5.

Children's Cabinet Link: Not Applicable

Other Link(s): This objective is associated with the TOPS Fund (tobacco settlement funds), which provides funding for the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS). This objective ties to Action Plan 2001 Recommendation A-17.

Explanatory note: The funding category related to this objective is the Base Executive Budget and the Governor's Supplementary Recommendation.

L E V E L	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES					
		YEAREND PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2000-2001	ACTUAL YEAREND PERFORMANCE FY 2000-2001	ACT 12 PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2001-2002	EXISTING PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2001-2002	AT CONTINUATION BUDGET LEVEL FY 2002-2003	AT RECOMMENDED BUDGET LEVEL FY 2002-2003
S	Number of applicants meeting minimal requirements <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable <sup>2</sup>	16,786	15,400 <sup>3</sup>	15,400 <sup>3</sup>	19,326	19,326
S	Number of applicants receiving notice of eligibility <sup>4</sup>	Not Applicable <sup>2</sup>	15,315	14,630 <sup>5</sup>	14,630 <sup>5</sup>	18,359	18,359
K	Percent of applicants meeting minimal requirements, processed and notified within 60 days	Not Applicable <sup>2</sup>	91%	95% <sup>6</sup>	95% <sup>6</sup>	95%	95%

<sup>1</sup> Applicants must meet at a minimum the following requirements: (1) Application must be received before July 1. ; (2) Achieve an ACT score greater than 16; (3) Date of the last ACT test must occur prior July 1.

<sup>2</sup> This performance indicator was introduced for FY 2001-2002. It did not appear under Act 11 of 2000 and has no performance standard for FY 2000-2001.

<sup>3</sup> Although the FY 2001-2002 performance standard is 15,400, the agency indicated in its FY 2001-2002 Second Quarter Performance Progress Report that it anticipates the yearend figure will be 18,749.

<sup>4</sup> Notice of eligibility is a written notification sent to all qualified applicants meeting all requirements for the level of the award for which they have qualified.

<sup>5</sup> Although the FY 2001-2002 performance standard is 14,630, the agency indicated in its FY 2001-2002 Second Quarter Performance Progress Report that it anticipates the yearend figure will be 18,652.

<sup>6</sup> Although the FY 2001-2002 performance standard is 95%, the agency indicated in its FY 2001-2002 Second Quarter Performance Progress Report that it anticipates the yearend figure will be 99%.

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## 3. (KEY) To process at least 95% of all TOPS billing requests within 10 days of receiving accurate billing data from postsecondary institutions.

Strategic Link: *This objective ties to OSFA Strategic ties to OSFA Strategic Plan Goal I.3 i.n the Scholarship and Grant Program.*Louisiana: *Vision 2020 Link:* This objective ties to Vision 2020 Objective 1.3 and Objective 1.5.

Children's Cabinet Link: Not Applicable

Other Link(s): This objective is associated with the TOPS Fund (tobacco settlement funds), which provides funding for the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS). This objective ties to Action Plan 2001 Recommendation A-17.

Explanatory Note : This objective replaces Objective 3 for the TOPS Program in the OSFA FY 2001-2002 Operational Plan, which reads "To process 100% of the students applying for renewal of the scholarship within 60 days of receiving accurate data from postsecondary institutions." Section 503.B of the rules for TOPS eliminated the requirement that all students must renew by filing a FAFSA (application for Federal education financial aid) form. The funding category related to this objective is the Base Executive Budget and the Governor's Supplementary Recommendation.

L E V E L	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES					
		YEAREND PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2000-2001	ACTUAL YEAREND PERFORMANCE FY 2000-2001	ACT 12 PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2001-2002	EXISTING PERFORMANCE STANDARD FY 2001-2002	AT CONTINUATION BUDGET LEVEL FY 2002-2003	AT RECOMMENDED BUDGET LEVEL FY 2002-2003
S	Total number of billing requests received	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	91,770	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	109,945 <sup>1</sup>	101,143	101,143
S	Total number of billing requests processed within 10 days of receipt	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	88,463	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	105,983 <sup>1</sup>	97,468	97,468
K	Percent billing requests processed within 10 days of receipt	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	96%	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	96% <sup>1</sup>	96%	96%

<sup>1</sup> This is a new performance indicator. It did not appear under Act 11 of 2000 or Act 12 of 2001 and has no performance standards for FY 2000-2001 and FY 2001-2002. The value shown for existing performance standard is an estimate of yearend performance, not a performance standard.

DEPARTMENT ID: 19B - Special Schools and Commissions

AGENCY ID: 19-661 Office of Student Financial Assistance

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GENERAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION: AVERAGE AMOUNT AWARDED, BY TOPS COMPONENT					
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES				
	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1996-97	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1997-98	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1998-99	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1999-00	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 2000-01
Opportunity <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	\$2,109 <sup>2</sup>	\$2,104 <sup>2</sup>	\$2,307 <sup>2</sup>
Performance <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	\$2,637 <sup>2</sup>	\$2,621 <sup>2</sup>	\$2,813 <sup>2</sup>
Honors <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	\$3,101 <sup>2</sup>	\$3,132 <sup>2</sup>	\$3,324 <sup>2</sup>
Teachers <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	\$4,382	\$3,982	\$3,910	\$3,810
Technical <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	\$575 <sup>2</sup>	\$520 <sup>2</sup>	\$707 <sup>2</sup>
National Guard Book Fee <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	\$300	\$300	\$300

<sup>1</sup> TOPS Teacher program was first funded in FY 1997-1998. The remaining TOPS components were first funded in FY 1998-1999.

<sup>2</sup> Retroactive legislative changes in eligibility requirements may result in changes to the average amount awarded as previously reported in prior years.

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GENERAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION: TOPS RETENTION RATES FOR SECOND YEAR, BY TOPS COMPONENT					
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES				
	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1996-97	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1997-98	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1998-99	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1999-00	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 2000-01
Opportunity <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	69.43% <sup>2</sup>	74.15% <sup>3</sup>	66.29% <sup>4</sup>
Performance <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	74.01% <sup>2</sup>	72.63% <sup>3</sup>	90.99% <sup>4</sup>
Honors <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	84.40% <sup>2</sup>	84.08% <sup>3</sup>	93.34% <sup>4</sup>
Teacher <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	87.91%	75.00%	70.00%
Technical <sup>1</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	34.78% <sup>2</sup>	34.88% <sup>3</sup>	70.73% <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TOPS Teacher program was first funded in FY 1997-1998. The remaining TOPS components were first funded in FY 1998-1999.

<sup>2</sup> Retention rate experience of the 1998 high school graduates.

<sup>3</sup> Retention rate experience of the 1999 high school graduates.

<sup>4</sup> Retention rate experience of the 2000 high school graduates.

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GENERAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION: TEACHER PREPARATION LOAN FUND					
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VALUES				
	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1996-97	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1997-98	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1998-99	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 1999-00	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL FY 2000-01
Total amount awarded	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	\$398,757	\$398,198	\$398,885	\$400,000
Total number of recipients	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	91	100	102	105
Number of new awards	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	91	20	46	50
Number of renewal awards	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	0	80	56	55
Number of graduates	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	48	5	35	39
Number of graduates who have fulfilled their teaching requirement	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	0	0	15	13
Number of loans repaid in full	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	0	0	1	0
Number of loans in repayment	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>	0	0	8	8

<sup>1</sup> The first award made in the TOPS Teachers Preparation Loan Fund program was in FY 1997-1998.